

BOOK REVIEW

Virus and Mycoplasma Diseases of Plants in India. S. P. Rauchaudhuri and T. K. Nariani. 102 pp. 1977. Mohan Primlani, Oxford & IBH Publishing Co., New Delhi. 32 rupees (\$4.00).

This hard cover volume is a real bargain at current book prices. The well illustrated text provides information not only for the beginner, but also for more experienced entomologists and plant pathologists interested in the vectors and diseases of cultivated plants in India. To write a treatise of this kind required a balance between jamming too much and too detailed information on the one hand, and omitting some useful data for the sake of brevity and clarity on the other. The authors have been successful in keeping the text to an essential minimum. The chapters deal with virus diseases of cercal crops, legumes, fruit trees, vegetables, plantation crops, industrial plants, and ornamentals. A separate chapter is devoted to wall-free microbial disease agents that resemble mycoplasmas. An index of hosts and of vectors is provided. The vector index will be of special interest to entomologists. It lists eryophyid mites, aphids, leafhoppers, plant-hoppers and whiteflies as well as the respective disease agents in India. A list of pertinent references follows each chapter.

The book is authoritative and up-to-date. The two authors have worked for many years at the Indian Agricultural Research Institute in New Delhi, and have published numerous research papers on this subject, but this is the first handbook that brought together the information pertaining to vectors and plant diseases in the subcontinent of India. The book will be a welcome addition to departmental libraries and, thanks to its low cost, also to individual workers.

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Biochemical Interaction Between Plants and Insects. James W. Wallace and Richard L. Mansell, Eds. 425 pp. 1976. Plenum Press, New York and London. \$35.00.

The chemical relationships between plants and insects are presented by 21 authors of 8 chapters. The compilation was the result of a symposium held at Tampa, Florida in the summer of 1975. The chemical defenses of plants and their effectiveness, primarily that of tannins and glucosinolates are discussed by P. Fenny. Nutrition and host specificity in insect-plant interactions are described by S. D. Beck and J. C. Reesc. These authors